

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00338 111346Z

46

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 H-01 SSO-00 /025 W

----- 052934

O 111233Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7677

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 0338

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAU AO US

SUBJ: PUBLIC STATEMENT BY CONG. DIGGS

1. CONG. DIGGS HELD PRESS CONFERENCE MORNING JAN 11 AT WHICH HE MADE OPENING STATEMENT AND DISTRIBUTED POSITION PAPER. TEXTS OF BOTH ARE BEING SENT SEPTELS. HE DESCRIBES HIS VIEWS GENERALLY OPPOSING USG POSITION ON ANGOLA.

2. DURING QUESTION/ANSWER SESSION WITH OVER 100 NEWSMEN DIGGS WAS ASKED QUOTE DO YOU HAVE ANY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT FORD OR SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS COMMUNICATED TO THE OAU SECRETARIAT THAT THE US WOULD ACCEPT AND RECOGNIZE ANY GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU INCLUDING THE MPLA? END QUOTE. DIGGS REPLIED QUOTE WELL, THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS MET WITH THE UNDERSECRETARY, MR. SISCO, IN DECEMBER JUST A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO AND I POSED THAT QUESTION TO HIM. HIS FINAL ANSWER AFTER A LITTLE TONGUE SWALLOWING WAS THAT THE USG WOULD ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU. I THINK IT IS LOGICAL TO ASSUME THAT THE US WOULD ACCEPT THE COLLECTIVE JUDGMENT OF THE OAU. I DON'T THINK THEY WOULD HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE. END QUOTE. ALL QUOTES ARE FROM TAPE RECORDING.

3. PUBLIC EXPOSURE OF ALLEGED USG FALLBACK POSITION IS NOT HELPFUL TO USG INTERESTS. I HAVE TOLD DIGGS THAT IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS HERE I SHALL CONFINE MYSELF TO SAYING THAT I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT MR. SISCO MAY HAVE TOLD CONG. DIGGS, CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 00338 111346Z

BUT THAT THE USG POSITION ON ANGOLA HAS PUBLICLY BEEN SET FORTH CLEARLY BY PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. DIGGS

SAID HE AGREED THIS IS APPROPRIATE RESPONSE FOR ME TO MAKE.
DURING AN AMICABLE PRIVATE LUNCH WITH DIGGS TODAY I TOLD DIGGS THAT
SPEAKING PERSONALLY I DID NOT THINK IT HELPFUL FOR HIM TO EXPOSE PUBLIC
LY
A FALLBACK POSITION OF THE USG. HE ANSWERED THAT HE DID NOT THINK IT
WOULD COME AS ANY SURPRISE TO KNOWLEDGEABLE AFRICANS.

4. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHAT AFRICAN REACTION WILL EMERGE.
SOME AFRICANS WILL PERHAPS SEE THIS AS EVIDENCE OF USG
RESPECT FOR OAU DECISIONS, AND AS BEING IN LINE
WITH USG ASSURANCES THAT WE ARE NOT AGAINST MPLA PER SE.
FRIENDLY AFRICANS WORKING HARD TO BLOCK RECOGNITION OF MPLA,
HOWEVER, MAY BE DISHEARTENED.
HUMMEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, CODELS, PRESS CONFERENCES, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS00338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760010-0171
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760168/aaaacibq.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUBLIC STATEMENT BY CONG. DIGGS
TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, OAU, (DIGGS, CHARLES C JR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006